

REMARKS

Claims 51, 54-55, 57 and 63-64 are pending in the present application. Claims 51, 55, 57, and 63 are independent.

Personal Interview Request

Applicants hereby officially request a personal interview with the Examiner to discuss the current rejections. Please contact Applicants' representative, Ms. Esther H. Chong at 703-205-8074, prior to issuing any new office action, to schedule this interview.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 51, 55, 57, 63 and 64 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukasawa in view of a new reference, Ozaki et al. Claim 54 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukasawa in view Ozaki et al. as applied to claim 51 above, and further in view of Kim et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Regarding independent claim 51, this claim recites the features associated with the 'finalization of the recording medium,' which is a term having specific meanings known in the art. After the finalization of the recording medium, data recording is no longer allowed to recording medium. As a result, claim 51 recites that "(c) updating the first and second management information based on the steps (a) and (b) until the recording medium is to be finalized" and "(d) writing, at finalization of the recording medium, the updated first and second management information written in the first management area onto the second management area, wherein during the writing step (d) the updated second management information is modified to include a location of the first management information written in the second management area" (emphasis added). At the finalization of the recording medium according to Applicants' embodied invention, both the first and second management information recorded in the first management area is now written to the second management area, but at this time, the second management information is further modified to include the current location of where the first management information is now written in the second management area. Other independent

claims 55, 57 and 63 recite similar features in a varying scope. These claimed features are clearly absent from the applied art.

Particularly, Fukasawa's copying step S1300 cannot be equated to the finalization of the recording medium and thus to the claimed writing step (d) which occurs at the finalization of the recording medium, because Fukasawa is concerned with a rewritable disc and thus does not teach or suggest the finalization of the disc where data recording is not permitted once the disc is finalized. Fukasawa's copying step occurs at each recording operation and is not associated with the finalization of the recording medium at all. Further, neither Ozaki or Kim overcomes these deficiencies of Fukasawa.

Therefore, each independent claim and their dependent claims (due to the dependency) are patentable over the applied art, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

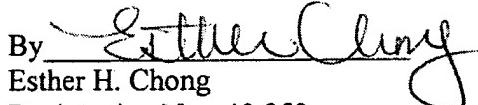
For the foregoing reasons, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong (Registration No. 40,953) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
Esther H. Chong
Registration No.: 40,953
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant